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SEC

SERVICE DATE - JUNE 7, 2000

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Finance Docket No. 32000 (Sub-No. 12)

RIO GRANDE INDUSTRIES, INC., SPTC HOLDING, INC., AND THE DENVER AND RIO
GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY
— CONTROL —
SOUTHERN PACIFIC TRANSPORTATION COMPANY
(Arbitration Review)

Decided: June 6, 2000

By petition filed on June 5, 2000, the Southern Pacific Empowered Employees Committee (SPEEC) seeks an extension until June 23, 2000, of the deadline for filing its reply to the arbitration appeal filed by the Southern Pacific Transportation Company, et al., on May 10, 2000. Under 49 CFR 1104.13(a), SPEEC's reply was due by May 30, 2000. Because SPEEC missed this deadline, its petition will be considered as a petition for leave to file its reply late and for permission to file the reply by June 23, 2000.

Permission for SPEEC to file its reply by June 23, 2000, will be granted. The issues involved in the appeal are sufficiently important that the Board would benefit from hearing SPEEC's position. SPEEC is admonished and reminded that it must follow all procedural deadlines in the future.

It is ordered:

1. SPEEC's reply to SP's arbitration appeal is due no later than June 23, 2000.
2. This decision is effective on its date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary